

SUPPLEMENT TO THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

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INSURANCE.

APPLICATION BY APPROVED MEDICAL AID INSTITUTION FOR EXTENSION OF AREA.

Those who have studied the various aspects of National Health Insurance will remember that Section 15 (4) of the National Insurance Act, 1911, allowed certain medical aid institutions "existing at the time of the passing of the Act" to receive the approval of the Commissioners, and, under conditions approved by them, to provide medical benefit for their members. This clause was the subject of great controversy at the time, and as first introduced was strongly opposed by the British Medical Association on the ground that not only did it give Government recognition to institutions already existing, but it allowed others to be set up. A compromise was arrived at in a conference between representatives of the Association and of the friendly societies, held in October, 1911, with Mr. Lloyd George in the chair. It was agreed that the "approval" of these societies should be limited to those then existing. This, like most compromises, pleased neither of the sides primarily interested. The almost universal opinion in the medical profession was then, and had been for years, that the medical aid institutions' method of providing medical attendance was bad in principle and had failed in practice. The Medical Alliance, the body representing these institutions, believed in the principle of having salaried doctors under the control of a lay committee, and it naturally fought for the vested interest which it represented.

The rules of the institutions had to receive the approval of the Commissioners, and they can only be changed now with the sanction of the Ministry of Health. The Middlesbrough and District Friendly Societies Medical Aid Association was approved in 1913, and its rules allowed it to operate within three miles of the Middlesbrough Town Hall. The governing body of the institution applied in November, 1919, to be allowed a radius of five miles. The British Medical Association, on hearing of this application, raised strong objection, and the Ministry refused it on the ground that the extension "would have the effect of so widening the scope of the association's activities as to change the character of the institution from that prevailing when it was originally approved." The institution then modified its application, asking to be allowed to take in only the areas of Normanby, Eston, and Grangetown, which are thickly populated industrial areas contiguous to Middlesbrough.

The Ministry decided to hold an inquiry on January 4th, 1921, at Middlesbrough.

Mr. R. W. Harris and Dr. J. Smith Whitaker represented the Ministry, and there were present a number of representatives of the Medical Aid Institution and of the workmen in the area which it was desired to include. These were introduced by Mr. Trevelyan Thompson, one of the members of Parliament for

Middlesbrough, and their views were stated by Mr. Robert Bell, Secretary of the Institute. Mr. Anderson represented the Medical Alliance, with which the Middlesbrough Institute is federated. Mr. Hutton and Mr. Peacock, Chairman and Secretary respectively of the North Riding Insurance Committee, represented that Committee. Mr. Plant, of Messrs. Steavenson and Plant, solicitors, represented the doctors in the area proposed to be included. Dr. G. H. Lowe, Honorary Secretary of the Middlesbrough Panel Committee and of the Cleveland Division of the British Medical Association, represented those bodies, and the Medical Secretary attended for the British Medical Association.

After a few opening remarks by Mr. Harris, who stated the objects of the inquiry, the Medical Secretary inquired whether the North Riding Pharmaceutical Committee had been asked to send representatives, as their interests were obviously involved. Mr. Harris said they had not been summoned, and promised that the point would be kept in mind by the Ministry.

The main argument for the extension, stated very persuasively by Mr. Bell, was that the areas proposed to be included were contiguous to the area already worked by the Institution, and that insured persons who wanted to join it ought not to be debarred by a boundary which was artificial, seeing that the work and interests of the workmen who were already members of the Institution were the same as those of the men just outside; also that it was unfair that they should have to provide for the dependants of insured persons residing in the new area, many of whom were now members, and should be debarred from accepting the insured persons, who were financially a better bargain from the Institution's point of view.

Mr. Plant dealt with the position of the doctors in the area now proposed to be absorbed. He pointed out that the idea of extension came from a body of workmen in that area who had resisted the efforts of the local doctors to obtain an increased weekly payment, and had brought in "doctors of their own" to prevent this increase; that these workmen had found themselves unable to provide medical attendance at a less figure than that suggested by the local doctors, and had had to raise their subscription to at least as high a rate; that the great majority of the workmen had stuck to their old doctors, but that those responsible for introducing the new men were looking to this absorption by the Middlesbrough Institution to stabilize their position by getting the machinery of the Insurance Act behind it. Mr. Plant showed that there was no ground for suggesting that the medical service in the district was not adequate, as there were eight doctors for a population of 30,000, without counting the two new doctors under the control of the workmen; that if the Middlesbrough Institution really believed that they were offering a better service than that given by the private practitioners of the district, there was nothing to hinder them allowing their doctors to go on the North Riding panel, and nothing then to prevent the insured persons in the area now in question choosing those doctors. This point evidently impressed the representatives of the

Ministry, who put searching questions to Mr. Bell and Mr. Anderson as to what difference there would be between the services of their doctors *quâ* medical aid doctors and of the same men *quâ* private insurance practitioners. The only reply seemed to be that the Institute would relieve the doctor of his clerical work, and thus enable him to give a better service than the doctor who had no such machinery at his back. Mr. Plant retorted that any advantage this might give would be far more than counterbalanced by the practical certainty of frequent change of personnel among the Institution doctors.

The Chairman of the North Riding Insurance Committee said that his Committee saw no advantage to the medical service of the district in the extension asked for. He was afraid it would be detrimental to the service, and unfair to the other doctors, inasmuch as the Committee would be unable to allocate to the Institution persons outside the approved radius of the Institution, while the other doctors would be obliged to accept allocations. He stated that there had never been a complaint about the medical service in the area under question during the whole seven years' existence of the service.

The Medical Secretary, after the detailed examination of the local position by Mr. Plant, confined himself mainly to the general aspect of the question, and reminded the representatives of the Ministry of the history of the clause in the 1911 Act which preserved the existence of the medical aid institutions. He said the Association held as strongly as ever that the principle underlying these institutes was bad, and the proof that the profession generally thought so was to be found in the inability of institutes to get doctors, or keep those they wanted to keep. He claimed that an extension of boundary should remove any institution from the category of institutions "existing at the time of the passing of the Act." In this case the part proposed to be included would be more important and richer from the Institution's point of view than the area covered by the parent body. Consent to the proposal would be to allow the less to swallow the greater. If consent were given to the proposal, the fight against these institutions—which had been patched up by the compromise, so far as the then existing bodies were concerned, and so long as they were content with the old position—would be reopened, and the consequences could not fail to be bad for the National Insurance medical service.

Mr. Bell replied, and the representatives of the Ministry stated that the decision of the Ministry would be announced shortly.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Insurance Medical Records.

SIR,—There is a great deal of nonsense written about the record cards and secrecy. As if we should dream of putting down anything on the cards that was really confidential! All we need put down is a clinical note, which not one man or woman in ten thousand, attended in private practice or otherwise, would object to.

There is less publicity in these records than in hospital records. As to the value patients set on keeping their complaints secret, it is instructive to listen for a few moments to the conversation in one's waiting-room. Symptoms and diseases—especially in medical terms, if they can get hold of them—are bandied about with the greatest gusto. And among private patients it is the same. They write to comparative strangers the most glowing description of their most intimate symptoms, and nothing pleases them better than the semi-public discussion of their own and other people's illnesses.

The complaints about the cards are got up, and kept up, by the press—not for the highest reasons. I have tested the trouble of keeping the records, and really it is very little extra work, and we are well paid for it.—I am, etc.,

Fairford, Glos., Jan. 8th.

H. BLOXSOME.

SIR,—It seems curious that neither the Interdepartmental Committee nor anyone at the Ministry of Health has foreseen the advantage which would have accrued if the new record envelopes had been made and printed so that a stiff edge would have been at the top. As at present designed the thin upper edges, which will be constantly fingered, will soon become dog-eared, and probably torn in course of time.

I suggest a better plan would have been to have the opening at the bottom. The record would then be placed in the drawer or cabinet with the open end downwards and the stout edge uppermost; this, as well as making the envelopes more durable, would have greatly facilitated the finding of any individual record. A possible objection

might be that the continuation cards would be in danger of falling out. I find, however, by trial, that this does not happen. An alternative would be to have the opening at the side, but the important point is that a stiff edge should be at the top.

With regard to secrecy: the Ministry have been caught napping in their instructions as to how we are to deal with temporary residents. For these cases we are told to fill in a continuation card and send it to the Local Insurance Committee; but no window envelopes have been issued suitable for this purpose, hence no secrecy.—I am, etc.,

Southport, Jan. 8th.

GEO. R. PENROSE.

SIR,—I have just sent a panel patient to a large city hospital as an "acute abdomen." Unless I worry the staff by post or make a long rail or motor journey to see the patient in hospital, all that I shall know as to the progress and outcome of the case will be the patient's unreliable version on the next occasion I happen to see him. In other words, at a time when the patient is necessarily under non-panel medical care and suffering from a complaint which may colour the whole of his subsequent medical history, no provision is made for maintaining the continuity of his records. The position is manifestly absurd, and when appreciated by the opponents of the record system will furnish them with a much more deadly weapon than the "secrecy stunt."—I am, etc.,

WM. J. AITKEN QUINE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Chinley, Jan. 9th.

Medical Records in Courts of Law.

SIR,—It appears to have been overlooked by all concerned that various and far-reaching legal problems may arise by the demand of the courts of law for the production of these record cards in court. A late Master of the Rolls, Sir George Jessel, laid it down that the courts of law do not recognize professional secrecy between a doctor and his patient, and this view was upheld by the House of Lords, and therefore any judge can demand the production of these cards in court if he thinks fit. The cards will practically be a life-history of insured people, giving their age, changes of occupation and changes of address, in addition to the history of their diseases. Up to the present all citizens are supposed to stand equal before the law; now they will be divided into two classes in their relation to the law courts: one class of the community will be liable to have the records of their life-histories produced in open court and the other class will be immune from this publicity.—I am, etc.,

Stalybridge, Jan. 9th.

ADAM FOX, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.

British Medical Association.

THE MEDICAL SECRETARY'S VISIT TO LANCASHIRE DIVISIONS.

THE Honorary Secretary of the Lancashire and Cheshire Branch, Mr. F. Strong Heaney, has arranged the following series of Division meetings to be addressed by the Medical Secretary in the week beginning January 17th:

Monday, January 17th.—Evening: Ashton-under-Lyne.

Tuesday, January 18th.—Afternoon: Mid Cheshire. Evening: Stockport, Macclesfield and East Cheshire, and Hyde.

Wednesday, January 19th.—Afternoon: Liverpool and Birkenhead.

Thursday, January 20th.—Afternoon: Salford. Evening: Blackpool.

Friday, January 21st.—Afternoon: St. Helens. Evening: Wigan.

On Wednesday evening Dr. Cox will be the guest of the St. Helens Medical Society at its annual dinner. The Chairman of Representative Meetings, Dr. T. W. H. Garstang, hopes to accompany the Medical Secretary to most of the meetings.

Association Notices.

BRANCH AND DIVISION MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: WILLESSEN DIVISION.—A meeting of the Willesden Division (open to non-members) will be held at St. Andrew's Parish Hall on Tuesday, January 18th, at 8.30 p.m. Dr. Christine Murrell will read a paper on maternity and child welfare clinics.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: HARROW DIVISION.—A meeting of the Harrow Division will be held on January 25th at the Gayton Rooms, Harrow, when Dr. Crichton-Miller will read, at 9 p.m., a paper on toxins, endocrines, and emotions.

MIDLAND BRANCH: NOTTINGHAM DIVISION.—Major Sinclair, C.M.G., R.A.M.C., will give a demonstration on "Fractures" in the General Hospital, Nottingham, on Wednesday, January 19th, starting at 2 p.m. At 4.30 an adjournment will be made to 64, St. James's Street, Nottingham, for tea, at the invitation of the Nottingham Medico-Chirurgical Society. At 5 p.m. Major Sinclair will give a lantern slide demonstration, illustrating his previous demonstration. All members of the Association are cordially invited to be present at this demonstration. Major Sinclair has kindly offered to repeat this demonstration the following day for the benefit of the nursing sisters of the Nottingham and neighbouring general hospitals.

Meetings of Branches and Divisions.

VICTORIAN BRANCH.

AT the close of the year the ballot papers were issued for the election of the new Branch Council. With the end of the Lodge dispute now in view, the incoming Council will be free from the heavy labours attaching to this question, and will be able to devote its energies in other directions. The situation at present is that nine large Orders, as well as certain smaller Friendly Societies, are working in harmony with the British Medical Association on the basis of the Wasley award. Three only have definitely refused to accept the terms of the British Medical Association.

Revision of Rules.

One of the many important subjects considered by the Council in 1920 was that of the revision of the rules. It had been recognized for some time that the time was ripe for such revision, but action in respect of the rule governing the annual subscription was rendered imperative by legislation passed at the Representative Meeting held at Cambridge last June, by which the annual contribution from Overseas Branches was raised to £2 2s. per member. The Council submitted to a special meeting of the Branch a proposal that the rates of subscription be four guineas for town members, three and a half guineas for country members, and two and a half guineas for junior members. Of these amounts, £2 2s., £1 11s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. respectively, were allotted to the Medical Society of Victoria. The Branch endorsed the suggestions of the Council regarding the increased subscription, though not without expressions of protest from various members who considered that the additional subscription asked of overseas members was scarcely warranted.

Another important change arising out of the revision of the rules is that the Council, elected by the members of the Branch, will in future select its own office-bearers. Hitherto the officers have been chosen by a general ballot of the members. There will be a Chairman of Committees, also selected by the Council, who, it is anticipated, will hold office for several consecutive years at least, and thus be conversant with the details of the activities of the retiring Council. There will also be representatives on the Council selected by the Divisions in town and country. This policy is designed to ensure greater strength to the Council, and to facilitate exchanges of views between the Council and the various Divisions: the change was suggested by experience in the recent Lodge dispute, when it was found that the presence of the local secretaries of Divisions on the Organization Committee was of the greatest assistance.

Parliamentary Representatives.

The election of Dr. J. R. Harris to the Legislative Council and of Dr. Stanley S. Argyle to the Legislative Assembly of the Victorian State Parliament are matters for congratulation. These gentlemen were entertained at dinner by the members of the Victorian Branch at the Grand Hotel, Melbourne, on November 25th, to mark their entry into Parliament. The medical profession in Victoria now feel that their views will be laid authoritatively before Parliament, and that misrepresentations of the opinions and attitude of the British Medical Association, some of which are matters of recent experience, will in future not go uncorrected.

Branch Honorary Secretary.

The Council has placed on record its very great appreciation of the services rendered the Association by Dr. J. W. Dunbar Hooper, during his four years' tenure of office as Honorary Secretary to the Victorian Branch. Dr. Hooper carried out the duties of honorary secretary during a particularly stressful term, which embraced almost the whole of the war period and that of the Lodge dispute. Only when the latter was fairly settled did he feel free to resign from the office which had absorbed such a large

amount of his time at a very great personal sacrifice. Dr. F. L. Davies was appointed as honorary secretary in succession to Dr. Hooper.

Post-graduate Classes.

The first series of post-graduate classes, arranged by the Permanent Committee for Post-graduate Work, established on the initiative of the Council of the British Medical Association, was held during the fortnight commencing November 8th, 1920. All the teaching hospitals, the Faculty of Medicine, the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, and the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories co-operated, and the classes were well attended. The inaugural lecture on "Instruments of precision in diagnosis," was delivered at the University of Melbourne by Professor W. A. Osborne.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: CITY DIVISION.

A DIVISIONAL dinner—the first since pre-war days—was held at the Abercorn Rooms, Great Eastern Hotel, on January 6th when Dr. CUTHBERT DIXON presided.

Dr. E. Goodall, President of the Branch, will deliver an address to the Division at the Metropolitan Hospital on Thursday, January 27th, at 9 p.m., on the nervous group of the acute infectious diseases.

A dinner dance has been arranged at the Abercorn Rooms on March 31st.

ULSTER BRANCH: BELFAST DIVISION.

AT the opening meeting of the Belfast Division of the British Medical Association, a paper, perhaps most instructive from the point of view of diagnostic acumen, was read by Dr. ROBERT REID, of Whiteabbey, Belfast, Chairman of the Division, on some interesting cases in general practice. A vote of thanks was accorded Dr. Reid, on the proposition of Colonel A. FULLERTON, seconded by Dr. R. W. LESLIE.

Naval and Military Appointments.

ROYAL NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICE.

The following appointments are announced by the Admiralty: Surgeon Commanders: E. S. Miller to the *President* for R.N. Recruiting Headquarters, J. Fullerton to the *Warspite*, P. H. Boyden to the *Dryad*, W. L. Martin, O.B.E., to R.M. Dépôt, Deal, A. R. Thomas, O.B.E., and E. D. J. O'Malley, to the *Voliant*, R. H. Mornement, O.B.E., to R.M.A., Eastney, W. P. Walker to the *Vindictive*, J. W. Craig to the *President* for R.N. College and Hospital School, Greenwich (temporary). Surgeon Lieut. Commander H. R. B. Hull to the *Raleigh*, on commissioning. Surgeon Lieutenants F. L. H. MacDowel to Special R.M. Battalion, J. R. Brennan to the *Crocus*.

ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE.

The following Major-Generals retire on retired pay: Louis E. Anderson, C.B., June 3rd, 1920 (substituted for notification in the *London Gazette*, May 10th, 1920), Gerald Cree, C.B., C.M.G.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

The following are placed on the half-pay list on account of ill health: Lieut.-Colonel G. J. S. Archer, Major H. S. Dickson.

The following relinquish the acting rank of Major: Temporary Captain Robert B. Wallace, D.S.O., M.C., Captain and Brevet Major J. D. Bowie, D.S.O.

Captain W. Walker, M.C., to be acting Major.

To be temporary Captains: Temporary Lieutenant H. J. Brink, E. Tanton (late temporary Captain with seniority from September 29th, 1915).

J. A. B. Sim to be temporary Lieutenant.

The following officers relinquish their commissions: Temporary Major W. A. Brend, December 11th, 1917, and retains the rank of Major (substituted for the notification in the *London Gazette* of December 10th, 1917). Temporary Captains and retain the rank of Captain: O. V. Burrows, M.C., F. H. Cleveland, J. A. MacSweeney, S. Wigglesworth, W. Kingdon, G. Fildes, R. Stephens. Temporary Captains on appointment to the Indian Medical Service: P. A. Dargan, H. J. H. Symons, M.C. Temporary Lieutenant D. M. O'Dwyer, and retains the rank of Lieutenant.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

MEDICAL BRANCH.

Wing Commanders to be Group Captains: D. Munro, C.I.E., with effect from December 31st, 1920; N. J. Roche, O.B.E., H. V. Wells, C.B.E.

Squadron Leader to be Wing Commander: J. MacGregor, M.C.

Flight Lieutenants to be Squadron Leaders: T. J. Kelly, M.C., R. S. Overton.

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE.

Major J. A. Shorten, Professor of Physiology, Medical College, Calcutta, has been granted combined leave for seven months (December 1st, 1920).

Colonel J. B. Smith, C.B., K.H.P., has been promoted to the rank of Major-General (June 26th, 1920).

The following officers have been permitted to retire, with effect from the dates noted: Major-General H. H. Hendley, M.D., K.H.S. (June 26th, 1920), Lieut.-Colonel F. N. Windsor, M.B. (August 15th, 1920), Major H. C. Brown, C.I.E. (October 23rd, 1920).

The promotion to present rank of Major H. Stott, O.B.E., M.D., has been antedated from August 1st, 1920, to February 1st, 1920.

The following Colonels have been appointed Honorary Surgeons to His Majesty the King: C. R. M. Green (June 15th, 1920), J. Garvie (June 20th, 1920).

The services of Captain J. H. Horne, M.B., have been placed temporarily at the disposal of the Chief Commissioner, Assam.

Major E. C. Taylor has been granted combined leave for one year (September 15th, 1920).

Major C. B. McConaghy has been appointed to hold charge of the current duties of the office of Political Agent, Bhopal, in addition to his own (November 19th, 1920).

Captain (Brevet Major) T. A. Hughes appointed to be Professor of Physiology, King Edward Medical College, Lahore (October 25th, 1920). Major M. R. C. MacWatters, Professor of Surgery, King George's Medical College, Lucknow, has been granted combined leave for one year (November 3rd, 1920).

Major H. Halliday, Civil Surgeon, Simla West, has been granted privilege leave for six months (November 10th, 1920).

Major (Brevet Lieut.-Colonel) F. A. F. Barnardo, C.B.E., C.I.E., Civil Surgeon, Simla East, appointed to hold charge of the duties of the Civil Surgeon, Simla West.

Major R. F. D. MacGregor has been posted as Medical Officer, Sistan Consulate (December 12th, 1920).

Lieut.-Colonel H. Austen Smith, C.I.E., M.B., has been promoted to the rank of Colonel (April 19th, 1920).

To be Lieutenants (April 24th, 1920): E. T. N. Taylor, M.B., A. S. Garewal, A. V. Lopes.

SPECIAL RESERVE OF OFFICERS. ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

Lieut.-Colonel J. H. P. Graham relinquishes his commission and retains the rank of Lieut.-Colonel.

TERRITORIAL FORCE.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

Major M. J. Mahoney, D.S.O., resigns his commission and retains the rank of Major.

Captain J. Ramsay, O.B.E., to be Major.

Captain G. R. E. G. Mackay, M.C., resigns his commission and is granted the rank of Major.

To be Captains: Captain J. Paton (late R.A.M.C.), with precedence as from April 1st, 1915 (October 14th, 1920—substituted for notification in the *London Gazette* of October 20th, 1920); Captain T. M. Jamieson from 4th Southern General Hospital, with precedence as from June 4th, 1915.

Captain L. R. G. de Granville to be Lieutenant, with precedence as from February 27th, 1915, and to relinquish the rank of Captain.

1st *London (C. of L.) Sanitary Company*.—Major L. T. F. Bryett, T.D., resigns his commission and retains his rank, with permission to wear the prescribed uniform.

Supernumery for Service with the O.T.C.—Temporary Captain V. G. L. Fielden, resigns his commission and retains the rank of Captain.

TERRITORIAL FORCE RESERVE.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.

Captains W. C. Hodges and E. G. Annis resign their commissions, and are granted the rank of Major.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES AND LECTURES.

HUNTERIAN SOCIETY, Sion College, Embankment, E.C.—Wed., 9 p.m.: Lecture by Sir W. Arbuthnot Lane on Colectomy.

LONDON DERMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY, 49, Leicester Square, W.C.2.—Tuesday, 4.30 p.m.: Pathological Specimens and Cases.

MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY, 11, Chandos Street, W.1.—Tuesday, 8.30 p.m., Dr. H. G. Sutherland: Medical Evidence in the Stanton Murder Trial.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE.—General Meeting of Fellows, Tues., 5 p.m. *Section of Therapeutics and Pharmacology*: Tues., 4.30 p.m., Laboratory Meeting at the National Institute for Medical Research, Hampstead. Presidential Address by Dr. H. H. Dale: Tendencies in Chemotherapy; Dr. J. H. Burn: Comparison of Digitalis Tinctures; Demonstrations. *Section of Pathology*: Tues., 8.30 p.m., Sir G. Lenthal Cheatle: Carcinoma of Breast; Dr. J. A. Murray: Early Carcinoma in the Mouse Mammary; Mr. A. H. Drew: Amitosis and Mitosis. *Section of History of Medicine*: Wed., 5 p.m., Dr. O. C. Gruner: The *De Viribus of Avicenna*; Dr. W. J. Turrell: Electro-therapists of the Eighteenth Century. *Section of Dermatology*: Thurs., 4.30 p.m., Cases. *Section of Otology*: Fri., 4.45 p.m., Cases; 5 p.m., Mr. T. Ritchie Rodger: Cavernous Sinus Thrombosis. *Section of Electro-Therapeutics*: Fri., 8.30 p.m., Dr. W. J. Turrell: Therapeutic Activity of Galvanic Current.

POST-GRADUATE COURSES AND LECTURES.

GLASGOW POST-GRADUATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, Royal Infirmary.—Wed., 4.15 p.m., Drs. Cowan and J. K. Rennie: Modern Treatment of Diabetes.

MANCHESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY.—Tues., 4.30 p.m., Dr. E. S. Reynolds: Aphasia.

MANCHESTER: ST. MARY'S HOSPITALS (WHITWORTH STREET WEST BRANCH).—Fri., 4.30 p.m., Dr. Lapage: Vomiting in New-born and Young Infants.

NATIONAL HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE HEART, Westminster Palace Street, W.1.—Mon., 5.30 p.m., Dr. Parsons-Smith: Mitral Stenosis.

NORTH OF ENGLAND BRANCH, BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Fri., 2.15 p.m., Mr. F. C. Pybus: Tuberculosis of the Spine; 2.45 p.m., Mr. J. Clay, O.B.E.: Urethral Obstruction; 3.15 p.m., Dr. A. Parkin: Clinical Cases; 3.45 p.m., Tea; 4 p.m., Dr. R. A. Bolam, O.B.E.: Dermatological Cases.

SALFORD ROYAL HOSPITAL.—Thurs., 4.30 p.m., Dr. Langley: Diagnosis of Diseases of the Liver.

WEST LONDON POST-GRADUATE COLLEGE, Hammersmith, W.—Daily, 10 a.m., Ward Visits; 2 p.m., In- and Out-patient Clinics and Operations. Mon., 2 p.m., Dr. Stewart: Out-patients; 5 p.m., Dr. Saunders: Digestive Disturbances of Children. Tues., 10 a.m., Mr. Steadman: Dental; 5 p.m., Dr. Burnford: Physiology of Digestive Tract. Wed., 11 a.m., Mr. MacDonald: Cystoscopy; 5 p.m., Dr. Simson: Obstetric Emergencies. Thurs., 2 p.m., Mr. Bishop Harman: Eyes; 5 p.m., Professor H. Littlejohn: Medico-Legal Post-mortem Examination of a Newly-born Infant. Fri., 2.30 p.m., Mr. Addison: Wards; 5 p.m., Mr. Baldwin: Appendicitis. Sat., 12 noon, Mr. Sinclair: Diseases of Abdomen; 2 p.m., Dr. Owen: Out-patients.

British Medical Association.

OFFICES AND LIBRARY, 429, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2.

Reference and Lending Library.

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SCOTTISH MEDICAL SECRETARY: 6, Rutland Square, Edinburgh (Telegrams: Associate, Edinburgh. Tel.: 4361 Central.)

IRISH MEDICAL SECRETARY: 16, South Frederick Street, Dublin (Telegrams: Bacillus, Dublin. Tel.: 4737 Dublin.)

Diary of the Association.

JANUARY.

- 14 Fri. London: Ministry of Health Committee, 2.30 p.m.
- 18 Tues. Willesden Division, St. Andrew's Parish Hall, High Road, Willesden Green, N.W., 8.30 p.m.
- 19 Wed. London: Medical Research and Laboratory Workers Subcommittee, 2.30 p.m.
London: University Teachers and Laboratory Workers' Salaries Subcommittee, 4 p.m.
Nottingham Division: General Hospital, Nottingham. Demonstrations by Major Sinclair on Fractures at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m.
- 20 Thurs. London: Territorial Force Subcommittee, 2.45 p.m.
- 21 Fri. North of England Branch: Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 2.15 to 4.30 p.m. Clinical Demonstrations.
- 25 Tues. London: Scrutiny Subcommittee, 2 p.m. (Time provisional.)
Harrow Division, Gayton Rooms, Harrow, 9 p.m.
- 26 Wed. London: Journal Committee, 2.30 p.m.
London: Medico-Political Committee, 2.30 p.m.
- 27 Thurs. London: Insurance Acts Committee, 2.30 p.m.
City Division, Metropolitan Hospital, 9 p.m.
- 28 Fri. London: Central Ethical Committee, 2 p.m.

FEBRUARY.

- 1 Tues. London: Organization Committee, 11 a.m.
London: Grants Subcommittee, 10.30 a.m.
- 2 Wed. London: Finance Committee, 2.30 p.m.
- 4 Fri. London: Naval and Military Committee, 2.30 p.m.
- 16 Wed. London: Council, 10 a.m.

APPOINTMENTS.

MARSHALL, W. H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., House-Physician, West London Hospital, Hammersmith, W.

MOORE, C. A., M.S.Lond., Ch.M., F.R.C.S., Surgeon to the Bristol General Hospital.

WAYTE, J. W., M.B., B.S.Lond., Junior Medical Officer and Registrar, Croydon General Hospital.

EDINBURGH ROYAL INFIRMARY.—The following appointments have been made:—*Resident House-Physician*: T. R. R. Todd, M.B., Ch.B., to Professor Sir Robert Philip. *Resident House-Surgeons*: E. H. Ablett, M.B., Ch.B., to Sir David Wallace; W. D. Brunton, M.B., Ch.B., to Mr. A. A. Scot-Skirving; D. A. Miller, M.B., Ch.B., to Mr. N. T. Brewis; T. E. Hastings, M.B., Ch.B., and Charles Simpson, M.B., Ch.B., to Surgical Out-Patient Department, under Mr. Chiene. *Clinical Assistant*: Major A. G. Coullie, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.E., I.M.S., to Dr. Norman Walker.

HAMPSHIRE GENERAL AND NORTH-WEST LONDON HOSPITAL.—*House-Physician*: Philip Hudson, M.B., B.S.Lond. *House-Surgeon*: Roland H. Fulton, M.B., Ch.B. New Zealand. *Casualty Medical Officer*: G. S. Lawrence, M.A., M.B., Ch.B.Aberd. *Casualty Surgical Officer*: W. A. Miller, D.S.O., M.C., M.B., Ch.B.Edin.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is 9s., which sum should be forwarded with the notice not later than the first post on Tuesday morning in order to ensure insertion in the current issue.

BIRTHS.

BOURHILL.—At Wynford, Pentre Broughton, near Wrexham, on January 1st, 1921, to Dr. and Mrs. C. J. G. Bourhill—a son.

MARSHALL.—At a nursing home, Manchester, on Friday, January 7th, the wife of H. F. Marshall, F.R.C.S.E. (née Christian Haig Ferguson), of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

PARSONS—DAWNAY.—On January 3rd, 1921, at the Church of St. Mary-le-Park, Battersea, Christopher Thackray Parsons, O.B.E., M.D. Lond., to Annie Burgess, widow of Archibald Hugh Payan Dawnay, F.R.C.S.

DEATHS.

FOX.—On January 4th, at Thornleigh, Accrington, Dr. Michael John Fox, V.D., J.P., aged 74 years.

Requiescat in pace.

HAMILTON.—On January 1st, at Essex House, Barnes, Henry Thomas Hamilton, L.R.C.P.I., L.S.A., I.M., son of the late Dr. Henry Hamilton, of Hatfield House, Chilham, aged 63 years.

HIGGINS.—On December 24th, 1920, suddenly, Charles Higgins, Consulting Ophthalmic Surgeon to Guy's Hospital.